



UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY *of the Health Sciences*



Mary Hillanbrand, MSN, RN, CNOR
Capt, USAF
Perioperative Clinical Nurse Specialist Program Faculty

Captain Mary Hillanbrand is an Assistant Professor in the Perioperative Clinical Nurse Specialist Program (PCNS). She began her career in the perioperative arena in 1983 as a surgical technician in the United States Navy.

Upon receiving a Bachelor of Science in Nursing with honors from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1998, Capt Hillanbrand worked in the community for several years before receiving a commission in the United States Air Force in 2004. She earned a Master of Science in Nursing in 2009 from the Uniformed Services University (USU), where she specialized in perioperative clinical nursing. During her time at USU, Captain Hillanbrand was a member of a three-person team that conducted product trials on reusable linens in the operating room at two major military medical centers in the Washington, D.C. area. The study was presented at the 2010 Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) Congress in Denver and the written report *Reducing Medical Waste* was published in the June 2010 issue of the AORN journal.

Captain Hillanbrand has earned many scholastic awards including the 2008 Perioperative Clinical Nurse Specialist Program First Year Distinguished Student Award, the 2009 Perioperative Clinical Nurse Specialist Program Outstanding Student Award and the 2009 Perioperative Clinical Nurse Specialist Program Dean's Award for

Research Excellence. She is currently enrolled in the Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) program of study at the University of Alabama.

Before starting the DNP program, Captain Hillanbrand completed military assignments at Keesler Air Force Base in Mississippi, USU in Maryland and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Alaska. She also deployed to Balad, Iraq in January 2006 and was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal for service in theater.

Furthermore, Captain Hillanbrand is active in many different professional organizations including AORN and the Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honor Society.